Match me if you can! Plant-Insect interactions in common cow parsnip Heracleum maximum (Apiaceae) Brittany N. Smith proposed Master's thesis project with Peter Leipzig-Scott and Paul Ode

Introduction

Phenological match and -mismatch is described as the alignment of plants with their herbivores and pollinators. As environmental conditions (eg., climate) fluctuate, these matches may become asynchronous and lead to novel plantinsect interactions.

Purpose

To determine how elevation and climate change affect H. maximum and its insect interactions with pollinators and herbivores.

How is parsnip webworm D. pastinacella herbivory affecting H. maximum fitness?

Observing plant phenology and traits may explain how a community and its plant-insect interactions will change over-time, especially in relation to climate change.



Procedures

A) Track and observe herbivores and potential pollinators

Research Questions

Do plant-insect interactions change over elevation?

Significance

100						No to	
	High	ele	evat	tion			
	Elevation (m) 7340 7544	Site 17CO09 17CO07	Diptera 6	Hymenoptera 16	coleoptera 420	Henniptera 18 98	
	0400	170000	0	0	7	40	

Low elevation

Future Results

Pollinators and insects will be identified to see if differences occur between and/or within sites.

Plant phenology will be analyzed with insect visitation and elevation.

Floral volatiles will be collected.

